

6. (Amended) The nitrile group-containing highly saturated copolymer rubber according to claim 1, which is a product prepared by hydrogenating a copolymer of 1, 3-butadiene, an  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -ethylenically unsaturated nitrile monomer, and a monomer copolymerizable with 1,3-butadiene and the  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -ethylenically unsaturated nitrile monomer.

7. (Amended) The nitrile group-containing highly saturated copolymer rubber according to claim 1, wherein  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -ethylenically unsaturated nitrile monomer is selected from acrylonitrile,  $\alpha$ -chloroacrylonitrile,  $\alpha$ -bromoacrylonitrile, methacrylonitrile and ethacrylonitrile.

8. (Amended) The nitrile group-containing highly saturated copolymer rubber according to claim 1, which has a number average molecular weight of 10,000 to 2,000,000.

9. (Amended) A crosslinkable rubber composition comprising 100 parts by weight of the nitrile group-containing highly saturated copolymer rubber as claimed in claim 1, and 0.1 part to 10 parts by weight of a sulfur-containing crosslinking agent or 0.5 part to 8 parts by weight of an organic peroxide crosslinking agent.

10. (Amended) A crosslinked rubber product made by crosslinking the crosslinkable rubber composition as claimed in claim 9.